THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) In Tamil Nadu, lignite mining operations are going on in three mining blocks *viz.*, Mine-I, Mine-II and Mine-IA in Neyveli, which is the Northern part of Cauvery basin. Lignite mining in Jayamkondacholapuram (Jayamkondam) area has not yet started.

(c) Detailed exploration has been taken up by NLC in Jayamkondam block. Advance Action Plan (AAP) to carry out certain pre-project activities for development of Jayamkondam project has been approved. Lignite production from Jayamkondam mine is expected to commence by the end of XI Plan.

Allotment of coal blocks in Jharkhand

†1647. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States and companies where from applications have been received for the allotment of coal blocks from the coal mines at Jharkhand and State-wise details thereof;

(b) the details of States and companies that have been allotted coal blocks; and

(c) the criteria of allotment of coal blocks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Applications have been received from the following State Public Sector Undertakings (State PSUs) for allotment of coal blocks located in the State of Jharkhand:

Sl. No.	Name of the State	State PSUs	Name of blocks
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh Mineral Development Corporation	Rajbar, Banhardih, Latehar, Jainagar
2.	Bihar	Bihar Rajya Khanij Vikas Nigam	Rajbar, Banhardih, Gomia, Jainagar, Saddampur
3.	Chhattisgarh	Chhattisgarh State Electricity Board	Rajbar, Banhardih, Latehar
4.	Gujarat	Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation	Rajbar, Banhardih, Latehar, Jainagar

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Sl. No.	Name of the State	State PSUs	Name of blocks
5.	Jharkhand	i) Jharkhand State Mineral Development Corporation	Rajbar, Banhardih, Latehar, Gomia, Pindra-Debipur-Khaowatand, Sariya-Koyatand
		(ii) Jharkhand State Electricity Board	Banhardih, Latehar, Jainagar
		(iii) Tenughat Vidyut Nigam Ltd.	Rajbar, Jainagar
6.	Haryana	i) Haryana Power Generation Corporation.	Rajbar, Banhardih
		ii) Haryana State Industrial Development Corporation	Rajbar, Banhardih, Latehar, Jainagar
7.	Maharashtra	Maharashtra State Mining Corporation Ltd.	Rajbar, Banhardih, Gomia, Sariya-Koyatand
8.	Madhya Pradesh	Madhya Pradesh State Mining Corporation	Rajbar, Latehar, Jainagar
9.	Rajasthan	Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited	Rajbar, Banhardih, Jainagar
10.	Uttar Pradesh	U.P. Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Ltd.	Rajbar, Banhardih, Latehar

(b) Of the above, the following companies have been allocated blocks in the State of Jharkhand:

Name of the Company	Name of the block
Tenughat Vidyut Nigam Ltd.	Rajbar
Jharkhand State Electricity Board	Banhardih
Jharkhand State Mineral Development Corporation	Letehar, Pindra-Debipur-Khaowatand
Metals and Minerals Trading Corporation	Gomia
Bihar Rajya Khanij Vikas Nigam	Sariya-Koiyatand
Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation	Jainagar

(e) Proximity of coal block, previous allocation of blocks, financial and technical soundness of the undertaking, recommendations of the

State governments are some of the criteria considered for deciding allocation.

Import of WLL handsets

1648. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government or private companies are manufacturing WLL handsets in the country;

(b) if not, whether we are importing these sets from other countries;

(c) the reasons for not manufacturing WLL handsets in the country itself

(d) the reserve stock available for handset of WLL connections and landline connections; and

(e) the process of selection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMED): (a) Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) handsets are manufactured in the country in a limited number from semi-knock down (SKD) stage by companies like M/s ITI Ltd., a public sector company and M/s Himachal Futuristic Communications Ltd. (HFCL), M/s ICOMM Tele Ltd., M/s XL Telecom Ltd., M/s Surana Telecom Ltd., etc. in the private sector.

(b) Yes, Sir. WLL (CDMA) handsets are freely importable as per the Foreign Trade Policy.

(c) The setting up of unit for manufacturing of WLL handset in India is dependent on various factors including demand and economic viability. As per the extant policies, no industrial licence is required for setting up a telecom equipment manufacturing unit.

(d) and (e) The information is not Centrally maintained.

Speedy disposal of parcels

1649. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state